

# ***NEWS***

*From the Office of*

## **Brad Mitzelfelt**

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San Bernardino County

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### **Board Supports Suspension of Job-Killing Climate Regulations**

SAN BERNARDINO – The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today unanimously voted to support the California Jobs Initiative, which calls for the suspension of implementation of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, better known as AB 32.

“I would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for throwing their support behind this important measure. If these greenhouse gas regulations are implemented, it will cripple California’s economy, which is still struggling to recover from this historic downturn,” said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who brought the recommendation to the Board. “We will still pursue clean energy and green jobs, but we cannot afford to put ourselves at a devastating competitive disadvantage when the rest of the nation and the world are playing by a different set of rules.”

The California Jobs Initiative would suspend implementation of AB 32 until California’s unemployment rate drops to 5.5 percent for four consecutive quarters. When AB 32 was signed into law in 2006, the state unemployment rate was 4.8 percent. Today the state unemployment rate is 12.8 percent, with unemployment in San Bernardino County at 14.8 percent, and areas of the High Desert with more than 20 percent. In the past year, the state has lost approximately 600,000 jobs.

If enough signatures are gathered, the initiative would go to the voters November 2.

“Our top priority has to be job creation. California already has a terrible reputation because of a regulatory environment that is hostile to business,” Supervisor Mitzelfelt said. “If we implement this draconian and expensive regulatory regime, existing businesses will flee and no new businesses will even consider locating here.”

Supervisor Mitzelfelt is calling on cities, counties and other public entities to support the measure. In January, Mitzelfelt, as a member of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District Board of Directors, helped lead the effort to have the air district send a letter to the Governor and Legislature calling for the suspension of AB 32. Seven cities in San Bernardino County, plus the County of Riverside have adopted similar resolutions.

“There is clearly a groundswell as people realize the disastrous consequences of taking this path. I encourage all elected leaders, business owners and all residents who are worried about their jobs and their futures to actively support the California Jobs Initiative,” Supervisor Mitzelfelt said.